

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

Highlights



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La Porte County, IN Highlights

Introduction

The first edition of the County Highlights was published in 1993. Lillian Miles, then Labor Market Analyst for the Gary Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area, originated the idea for this descriptive area publication.

Highlights are now a web publication and, as a result, the data can be updated throughout the year, not just on an annual basis. These Highlights are available in easy-to-use web format but are also printable and e-mailable and provide a snapshot of critical population and workforce statistics for each of Indiana’s 92 counties, 11 Economic Growth Regions, and the State of Indiana.

Each Highlights includes an overview of the demographics and workforce of an area, from its population to the size of its labor force and the industry mix of jobs and wages.

Don’t hesitate to contact your regional analyst if you need further information about your area.



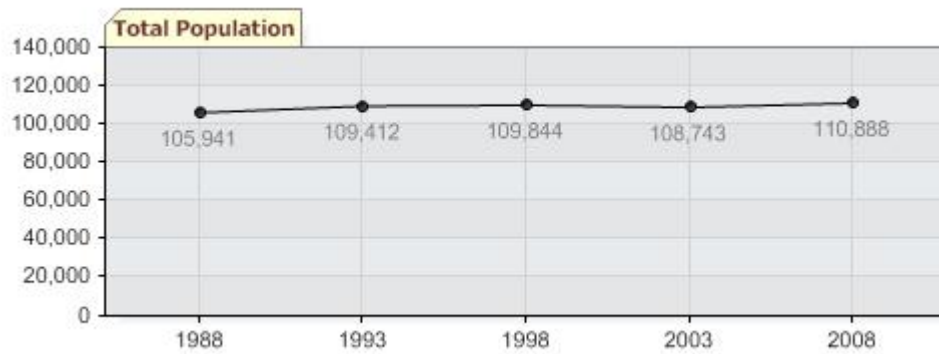
Location

LaPorte County is located in Northwest Indiana. The county is bordered on the south by Starke County. The County is adjacent to St. Joseph County on the east, Lake Michigan and the State of Michigan are to the north, and Porter County to the west. LaPorte County is one of the seven counties located in the area designated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development as Indiana Economic Growth Region 1.

Population

A region's economy thrives or dives because of the people who choose to live there. That choice may occur by being born there and desiring to stay, or a more deliberate one of choosing to relocate from somewhere else. Monitoring change in the size and movement of population is an important barometer of well-being. Some of us monitor these changes as an insect might gauge the shifting sands while most don't pay much attention. But the barometer is a good metaphor for population change since it can presage more notable events, such as lackluster business attraction due to lack of workers.

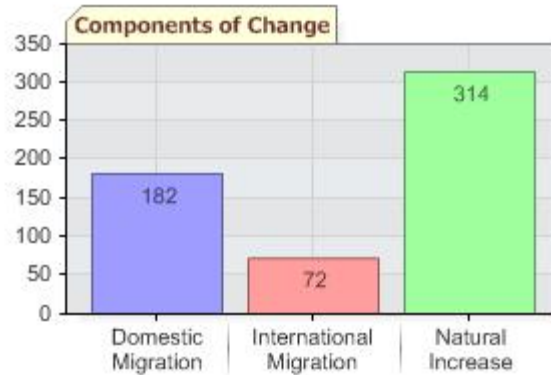
Population Over Time					
	1988	1993	1998	2003	2008
Total Population	105,941	109,412	109,844	108,743	110,888
Change Since 1988		3,471	3,903	2,802	4,947
Pct. Change Since 1988		3.3%	3.7%	2.6%	4.7%



Source: US Census Bureau

Components of Population Change 2007 to 2008

	Number
Net Domestic Migration	182
International Migration	72
Natural Increase (births minus deaths)	314
Births	1,366
Deaths	1,052



Source: US Census Bureau

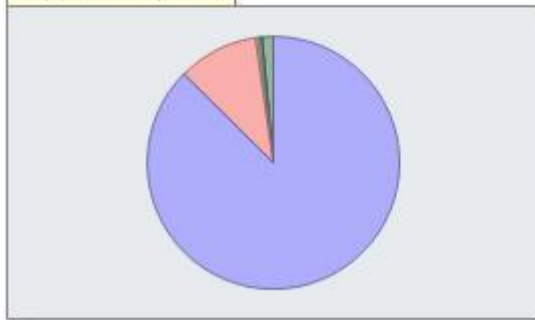
Population Estimates by Age in 2007

	Number	Pct. Dist
Preschool	6,736	6.1%
School Age	18,842	17.1%
College Age	9,047	8.2%
Young Adult	30,115	27.3%
Older Adult	29,864	27.1%
Older (65 plus)	15,183	13.8%

Source: US Census Bureau

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2007

	Number	Pct. Dist
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	370	0.3%
Asian Alone	527	0.5%
Black Alone	11,287	10.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	36	0.0%
White Alone	95,982	87.0%
Two or More Race Groups	1,585	1.4%

Population by Race

87.04 %	White
10.24 %	Black
0.34 %	Am. Ind or Alaskan Native
0.48 %	Asian
0.03 %	Hawaiian and Pac. Isl
1.44 %	Two or More

Hispanic or Latino

Non-Hispanic or Latino	105,186	95.4%
Hispanic or Latino	4,601	4.2%

Source: US Census Bureau

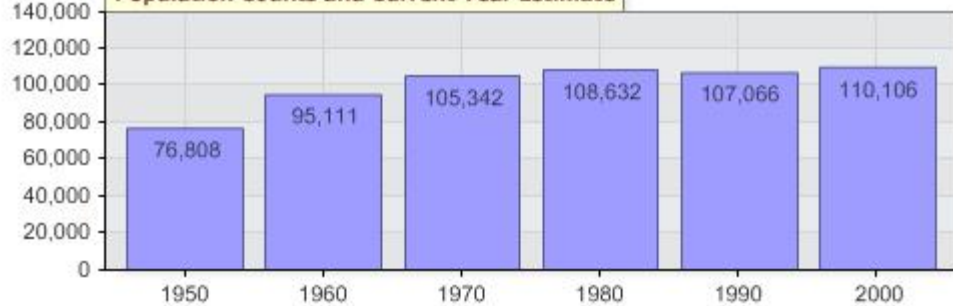
Households in 2000

	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Households	41,050	100.0%
Family Households	28,597	69.7%
Married with Children	9,262	22.6%
Married without Children	12,831	31.3%
Single Parents	3,808	9.3%
Other	2,696	6.6%
Non-family Households	12,453	30.3%
Living Alone	10,365	25.2%
Average Household Size	2.68	
Average Family Household Size	3.85	

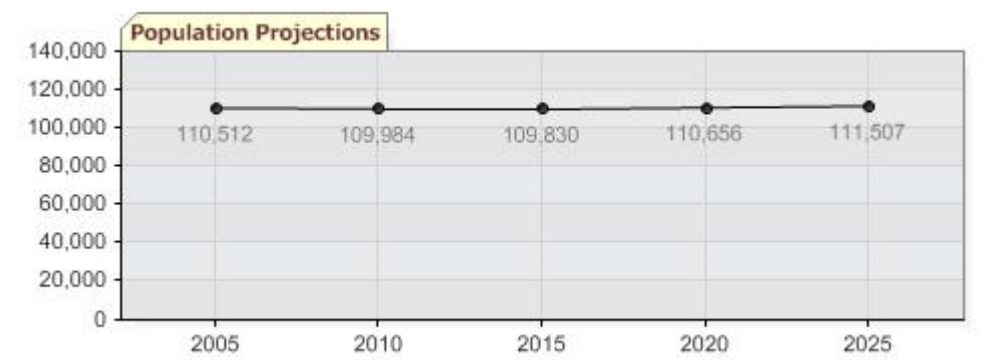
Source: US Census Bureau

Population Counts by Decade and Current Year Estimate

	Population	Numerical Chg.	Pct. Chg.
1950	76,808	NA	NA
1960	95,111	18,303	23.8%
1970	105,342	10,231	10.8%
1980	108,632	3,290	3.1%
1990	107,066	-1,566	-1.4%
April 2000	110,106	3,040	2.8%
2007	N/A	N/A	N/A

Population Counts and Current Year Estimate

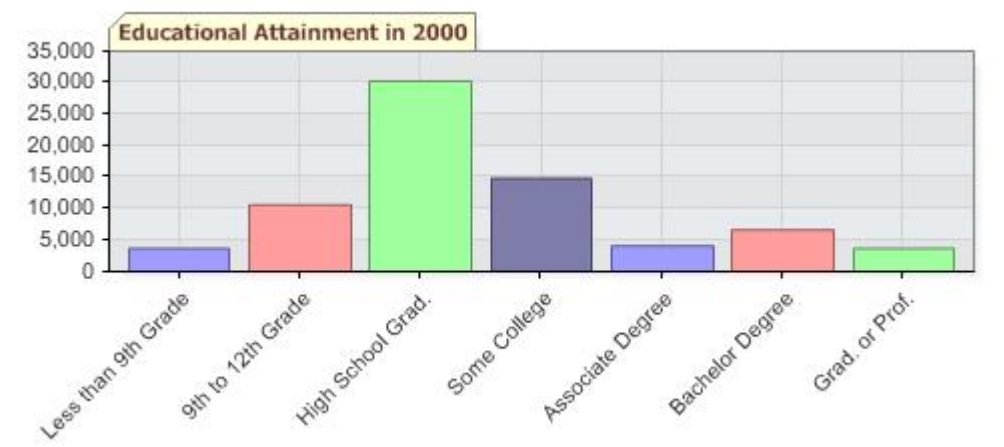
Population Projections					
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Population Projections	110,512	109,984	109,830	110,656	111,507
Change Since 2005		-528	-682	144	995
Pct. Change Since 2005		-0.5%	-0.6%	0.1%	0.9%



Education

The level of education of our workforce is a critical factor for economic and community development. It often provides insight into the skill levels of a local area. The metrics provided here focus on the attainment of degrees and high school graduates' higher education intent. The type of work (occupations) residents perform can also assist in understanding skill levels.

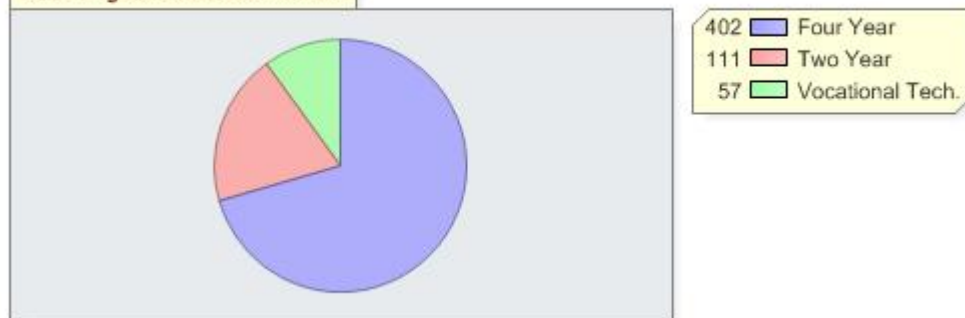
Educational Attainment				
	1970	1980	1990	2000
Total Population 25 and Older	57,607	63,540	70,102	73,723
Less than 9th Grade	15,862	10,146	5,981	3,706
9th to 12th, No Diploma	13,652	12,932	12,310	10,608
High School Graduate (incl. equiv.)	19,952	26,656	28,716	30,234
Some College, No Degree			11,052	14,804
Associate Degree			3,809	4,059
Bachelors Degree			4,814	6,633
Graduate or Professional Degree			3,420	3,679



High School Graduates Going on to Higher Education

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Graduates	920	898	992	1,045
Total to Higher Education	668	493	606	570
Four-Year Institution	482	411	476	402
Two-Year Institution	83	59	93	111
Vocational/Tech.	103	23	37	57
Military	30	12	13	20

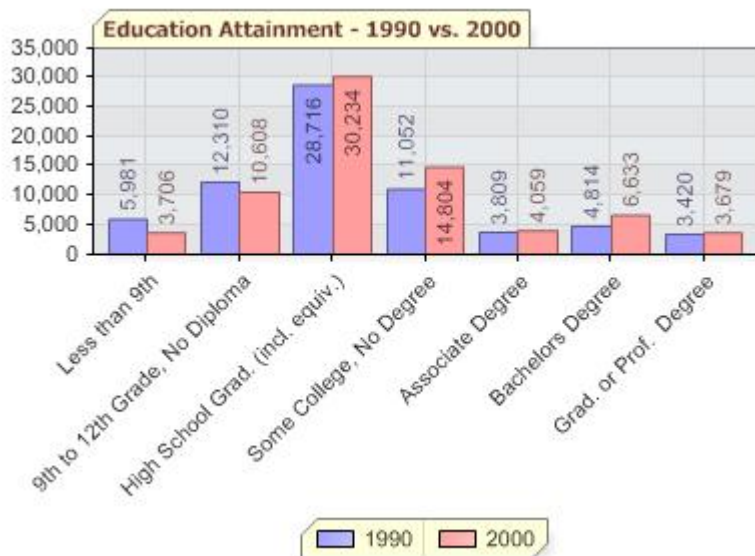
2007 Higher Education Intent



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Educational Attainment in 1990 and 2000

	1990	Pct. of Pop. 25+	2000	Pct. of Pop. 25+
Total Population 25+	70,102	100.0%	73,723	100.0%
Less than 9th Grade	5,981	8.5%	3,706	5.0%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	12,310	17.6%	10,608	14.4%
High School Graduate (incl. equivalency)	28,716	41.0%	30,234	41.0%
Some College, No Degree	11,052	15.8%	14,804	20.1%
Associate Degree	3,809	5.4%	4,059	5.5%
Bachelors Degree	4,814	6.9%	6,633	9.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	3,420	4.9%	3,679	5.0%

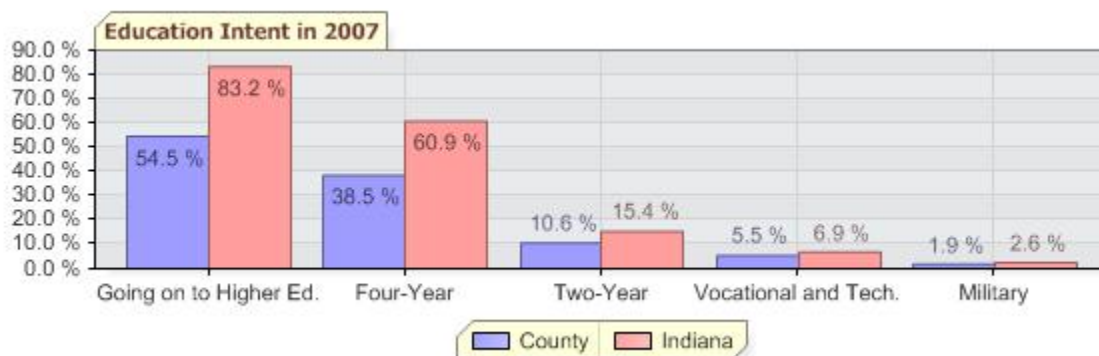


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

High School Graduates Higher Education Intent

	2007 Pct. Dist.	Indiana Pct. Dist.

Graduates	100.0%	100.0%
Total Going on to Higher Education	54.5%	83.2%
Four-Year Institution	38.5%	60.9%
Two-Year Institution	10.6%	15.4%
Vocational and Tech.	5.5%	6.9%
Military	1.9%	2.6%



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Commuting

In Indiana, most workers commute to a job, either within their home county or beyond. Patterns of commuting are significant in showing the labor supply. The county *labor force* represents workers who reside in the county no matter where they work. Two types of commuting patterns are provided here - the Census 2000 *benchmark* and the annual data tabulated from state income tax returns that can help provide a more current view.

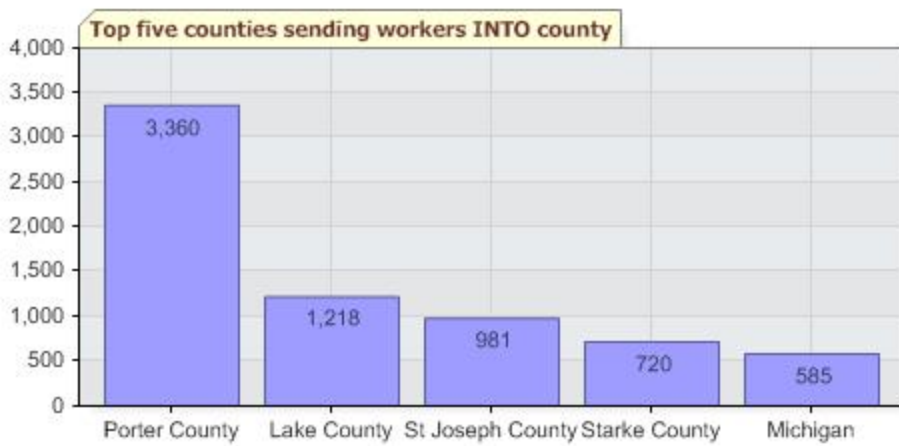
Commuting Data, 2007

	Number
Number of tax filers who live in county and work	70,543
Number of tax filers who work in the county	66,537
Number of tax filers who live in county and work in county	58,727
Number of tax filers who live out of the county and work in county	7,810

Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties sending workers INTO county, 2007

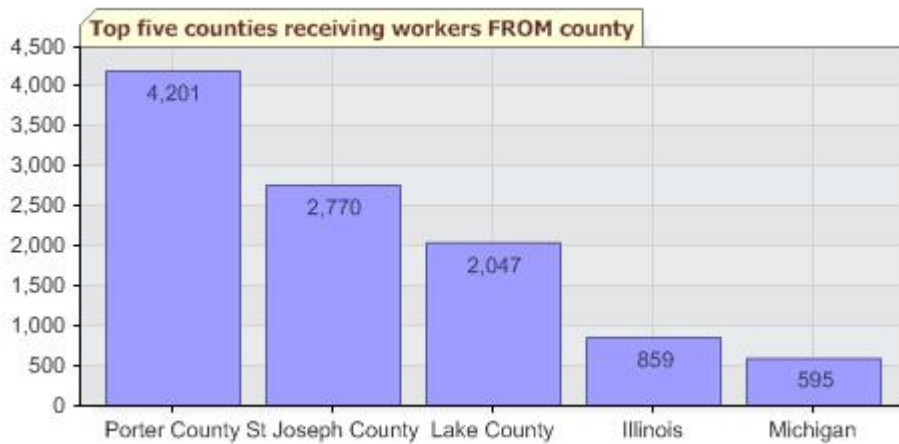
County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Porter County	3,360	49.3%
Lake County	1,218	17.9%
St Joseph County	981	14.4%
Starke County	720	10.6%
Michigan	585	8.3%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties receiving workers FROM county, 2007

County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Porter County	4,201	40.1%
St Joseph County	2,770	26.5%
Lake County	2,047	19.5%
Illinois	859	8.2%
Michigan	595	5.7%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Travel To Work in 2000

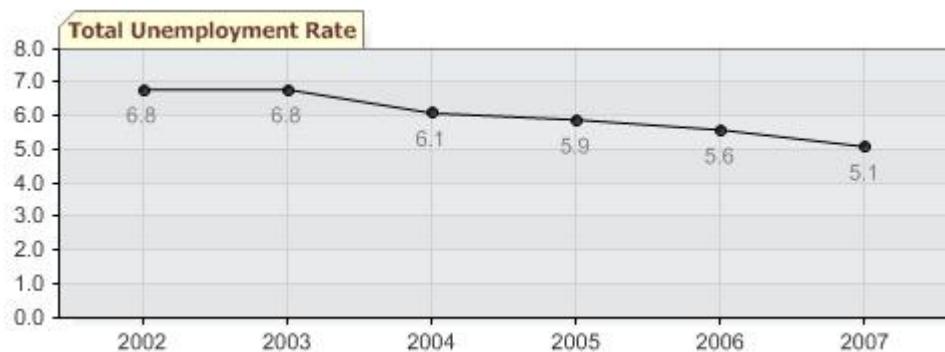
	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Workers Age 16 and Over	50,121	100.0%
Travel To Work	48,813	97.4%
Car, Truck, or Van	46,825	93.4%
Traveled Alone	41,892	83.6%
Carpooled	4,933	9.8%
Used Public Transportation	490	1.0%
Motorcycle, Bicycle, Walked, Other	1,498	3.0%
Worked At Home	1,308	2.6%
Average Travel Time (Minutes)	22.0	
Average Travel Time using Public Transportation (Minutes)	52.2	

Labor Force

An area's labor force provides insight on the availability factor and is residence-based - that is, the people are working or seeking work and reside in the particular county or region.

Annual Labor Force Estimates in 2007

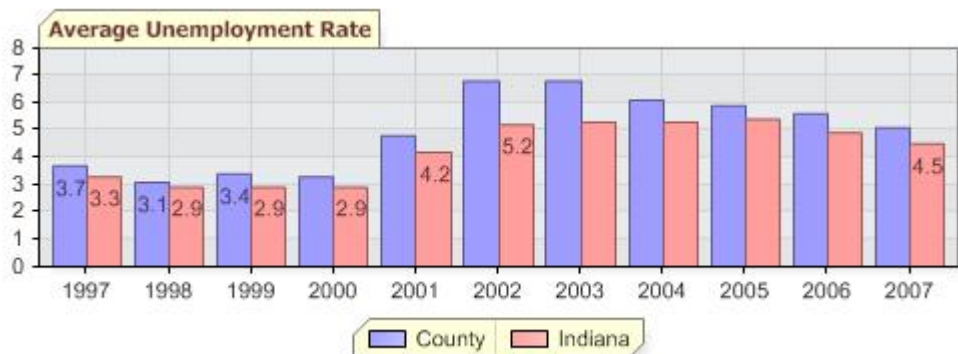
	Number	Pct. Chg. from 2000
Labor Force	52,796	-2.4%
Employed	50,128	-4.1%
Unemployed	2,668	48.1%
Rate	5.1	54.5%



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force Estimates

	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.	Cnty. Rate	State Rate
1997	54,624	52,586	2,038	3.7	3.3
1998	54,191	52,499	1,692	3.1	2.9
1999	53,839	52,028	1,811	3.4	2.9
2000	54,097	52,295	1,802	3.3	2.9
2001	54,115	51,529	2,586	4.8	4.2
2002	54,092	50,404	3,688	6.8	5.2
2003	53,563	49,918	3,645	6.8	5.3
2004	52,567	49,353	3,214	6.1	5.3
2005	52,976	49,825	3,151	5.9	5.4
2006	53,216	50,210	3,006	5.6	4.9
2007	52,796	50,128	2,668	5.1	4.5



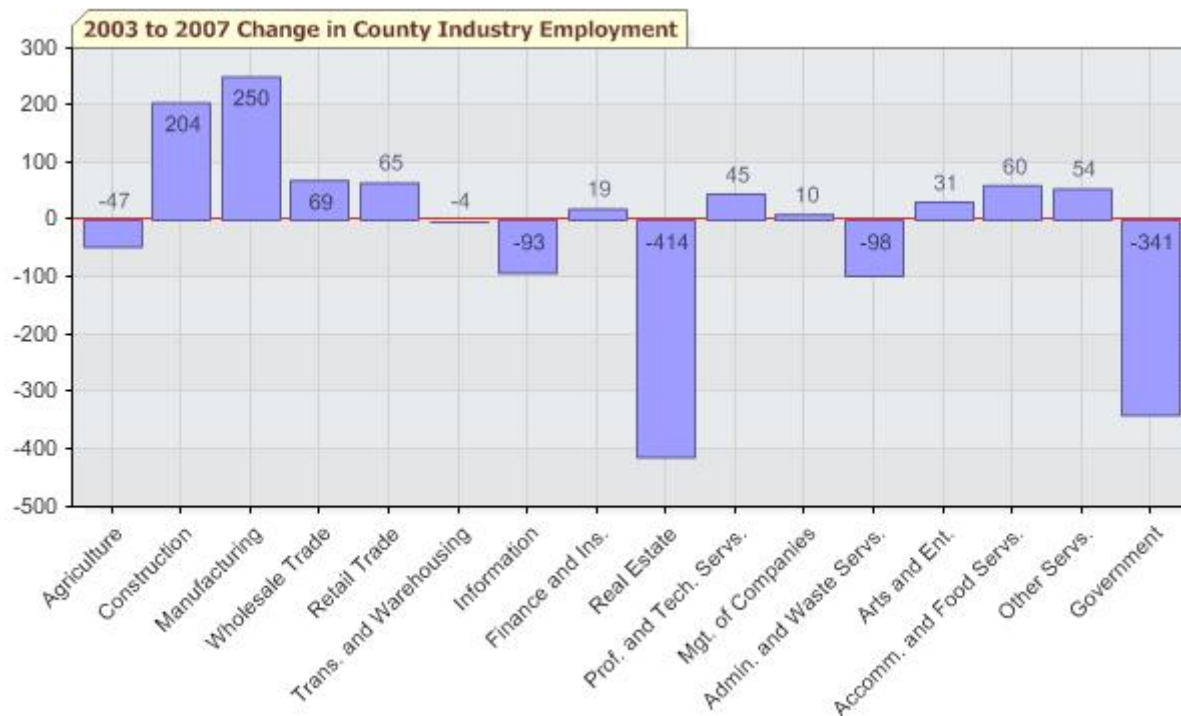
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry.

Average Employment by Sector

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2003-2007	% Change 2003-2007
Total Employment	45,425	44,674	45,109	44,869	44,819	-606	-1.33%
Total Private Employment	37,948	37,301	37,802	37,798	37,683	-265	-0.70%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	262	256	238	224	215	-47	-17.94%
Mining	D	90	50	34	35	N/A	N/A
Construction	2,260	2,162	2,215	2,184	2,464	204	9.03%
Manufacturing	8,980	9,196	9,341	9,475	9,230	250	2.78%
Wholesale Trade	1,196	1,208	1,236	1,232	1,265	69	5.77%
Retail Trade	5,650	5,617	5,609	5,673	5,715	65	1.15%
Transport. and Warehousing	1,293	1,238	1,329	1,304	1,289	-4	-0.31%
Utilities	257	251	D	D	D	N/A	N/A
Information	690	675	668	655	597	-93	-13.48%
Finance and Insurance	875	882	924	917	894	19	2.17%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	751	336	366	355	337	-414	-55.13%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	717	750	774	757	762	45	6.28%
Mgmt. of Companies	81	84	99	89	91	10	12.35%
Admin. and Waste Services	1,833	1,866	1,903	1,912	1,735	-98	-5.35%
Educational Services	322	333	309	303	318	N/A	N/A
Health Care and Social Assistance	6,179	5,944	5,898	5,829	5,877	N/A	N/A
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	1,556	1,501	1,620	1,640	1,587	31	1.99%
Accommodation and Food Service	3,600	3,564	3,609	3,645	3,660	60	1.67%
Other Services	1,307	1,347	1,356	1,308	1,361	54	4.13%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	7,477	7,373	7,307	7,071	7,136	-341	-4.56%

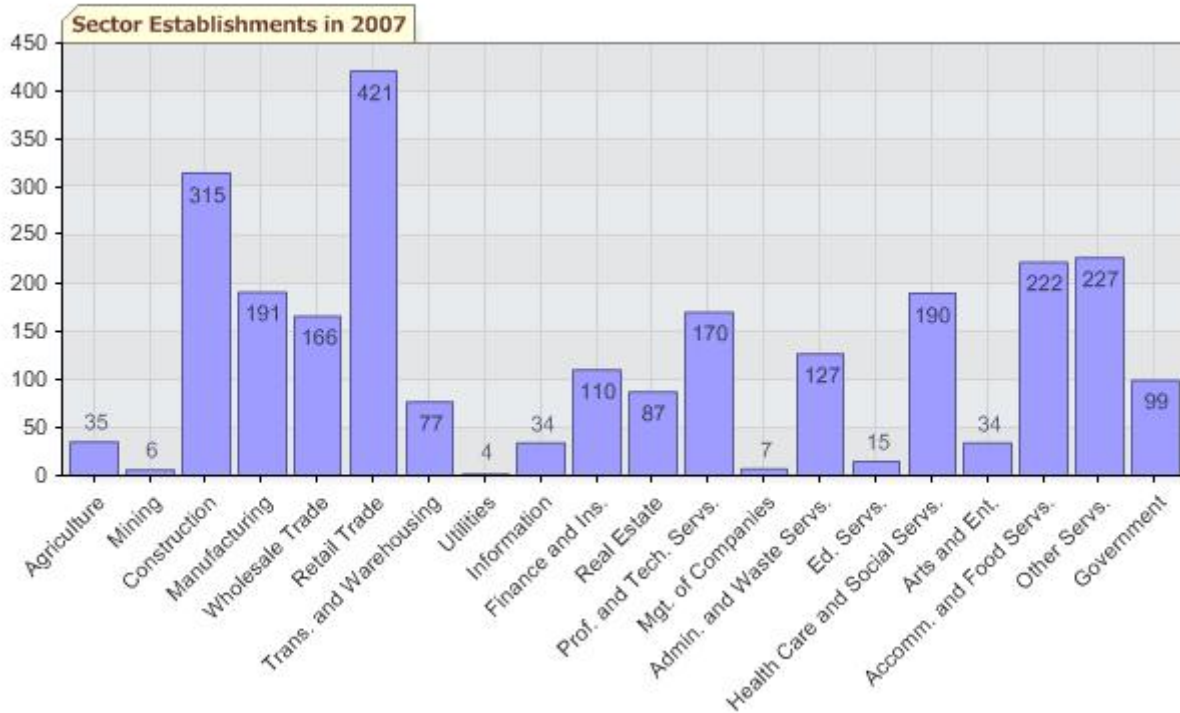


Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Establishments by Sector

Change % Change

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007
Total Establishments	2,513	2,491	2,502	2,529	2,535	22	0.88%
Total Private Establishments	2,422	2,397	2,410	2,438	2,436	14	0.58%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	35	36	35	32	35	0	0.00%
Mining	D	4	5	5	6	N/A	N/A
Construction	311	312	308	313	315	4	1.29%
Manufacturing	206	201	198	195	191	-15	-7.28%
Wholesale Trade	145	147	157	161	166	21	14.48%
Retail Trade	422	412	413	419	421	-1	-0.24%
Transport. and Warehousing	84	75	75	78	77	-7	-8.33%
Utilities	5	5	D	D	D	-1	-20.00%
Information	30	30	30	33	34	4	13.33%
Finance and Insurance	103	105	110	112	110	7	6.80%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	88	87	94	92	87	-1	-1.14%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	170	167	174	171	170	0	0.00%
Mgmt. of Companies	6	6	8	7	7	1	16.67%
Admin. and Waste Services	122	121	120	128	127	5	4.10%
Educational Services	18	17	15	15	15	-3	-16.67%
Health Care and Social Assistance	198	196	189	188	190	-8	-4.04%
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	29	34	37	35	34	5	17.24%
Accommodation and Food Service	215	218	220	224	222	7	3.26%
Other Services	230	225	220	224	227	-3	-1.30%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	91	94	92	91	99	8	8.79%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

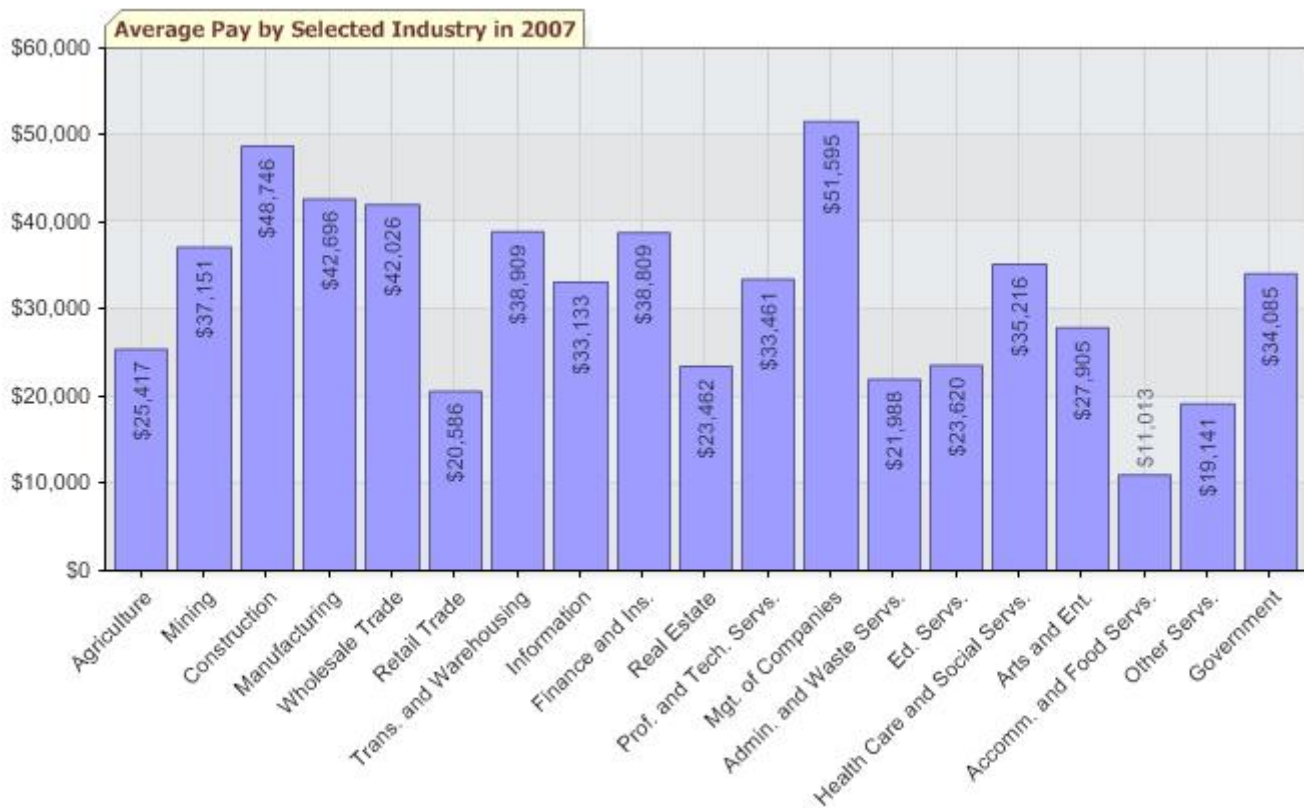
Earnings and Income

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry. Note: The income figures and changes are not adjusted for inflation.

Average Annual Earnings by Industry

Change % Change Indiana % of

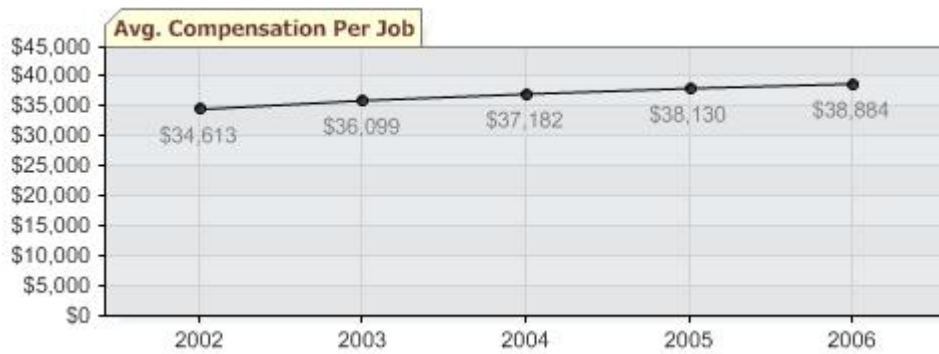
	2003	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007	2007	State
All Industries	\$28,799	\$32,571	\$3,772	13.1%	\$37,530	86.8%
Ag., For., Fishing, & Hunt.	\$21,364	\$25,417	\$4,053	19.0%	\$28,008	90.7%
Mining	D	\$37,151	N/A	N/A	\$57,315	64.8%
Construction	\$39,740	\$48,746	\$9,006	22.7%	\$44,754	108.9%
Manufacturing	\$38,288	\$42,696	\$4,408	11.5%	\$51,148	83.5%
Wholesale Trade	\$35,404	\$42,026	\$6,622	18.7%	\$51,432	81.7%
Retail Trade	\$18,797	\$20,586	\$1,789	9.5%	\$22,581	91.2%
Trans. & Warehousing	\$35,739	\$38,909	\$3,170	8.9%	\$38,012	102.4%
Utilities	\$69,067	D	N/A	N/A	\$68,267	N/A
Information	\$32,518	\$33,133	\$614	1.9%	\$46,311	71.5%
Finance & Insurance	\$36,492	\$38,809	\$2,318	6.4%	\$52,649	73.7%
Real Est., Rent., Leasing	\$18,310	\$23,462	\$5,151	28.1%	\$32,614	71.9%
Prof. & Tech. Svcs.	\$28,858	\$33,461	\$4,604	16.0%	\$51,451	65.0%
Mgt.of Companies	\$53,352	\$51,595	-\$1,757	-3.3%	\$72,682	71.0%
Admin. & Waste Svcs.	\$19,338	\$21,988	\$2,651	13.7%	\$24,934	88.2%
Education Svcs.	\$19,465	\$23,620	\$4,154	21.3%	\$31,029	76.1%
Health Care & Social Assist.	\$31,581	\$35,216	\$3,635	11.5%	\$37,706	93.4%
Arts, Ent. & Rec.	\$24,710	\$27,905	\$3,195	12.9%	\$29,251	95.4%
Accom. & Food Svcs.	\$9,782	\$11,013	\$1,231	12.6%	\$12,442	88.5%
Other Svcs.	\$18,743	\$19,141	\$399	2.1%	\$24,862	77.0%
Fed.I, State & Local Govt.	\$30,187	\$34,085	\$3,898	12.9%	\$37,054	92.0%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Average Compensation Per Job Over Time

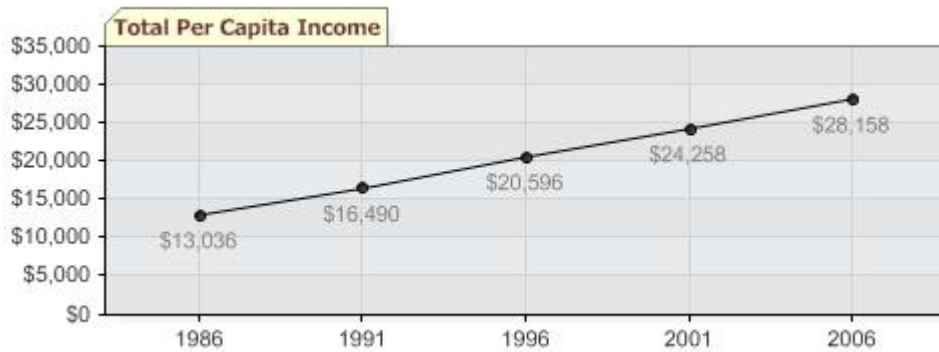
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Avg. Compensation per Job	\$34,613	\$36,099	\$37,182	\$38,130	\$38,884
Change Since 2002		\$1,486	\$2,569	\$3,517	\$4,271
Pct. Change Since 2002		4.3%	7.4%	10.2%	12.3%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Per Capita Income Over Time

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006
Total Per Capita Income	\$13,036	\$16,490	\$20,596	\$24,258	\$28,158
Change Since 1986		\$3,454	\$7,560	\$11,222	\$15,122
Pct. Change Since 1986		26.5%	58.0%	86.1%	116.0%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Income & Wage

	Number
Median family income in 2007 (ACS)	\$53,250
Median household income in 2007 (ACS)	\$43,480
Average Wage Per Job in 2007 (BLS)	\$32,570
Wage Growth since 1997 (BLS)	32.7%

Source: US Census Bureau & Bureau of Labor Statistics

Firms and Employment by Size

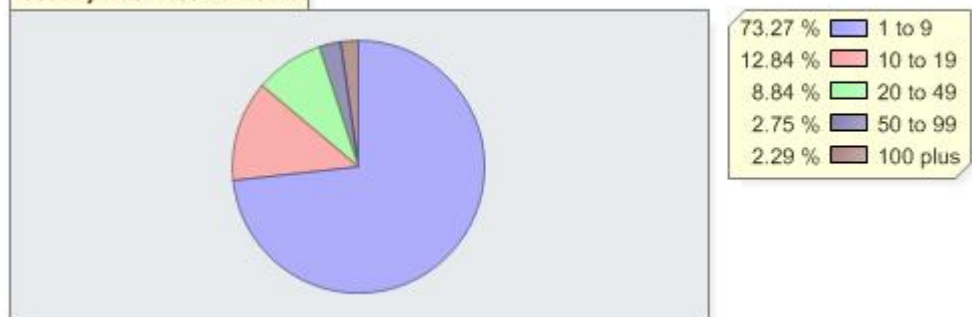
Firm data are available for most counties by the size of the firms and average employment by business unit size.

County Business Patterns, 2006

	Establishments	Number Chg. 01 to 06	Pct.Chg. 01 to 06	Pct. of Total
1-9 employees	1,889	14	0.7%	73.3%
10-19 employees	331	-51	-13.4%	12.8%
20-49 employees	228	7	3.2%	8.8%

50-99 employees	71	-15	-17.4%	2.8%
100 plus employees	59	-2	-3.3%	2.3%
TOTAL	2,578	-47	-1.8%	100.0%

County Business Patterns

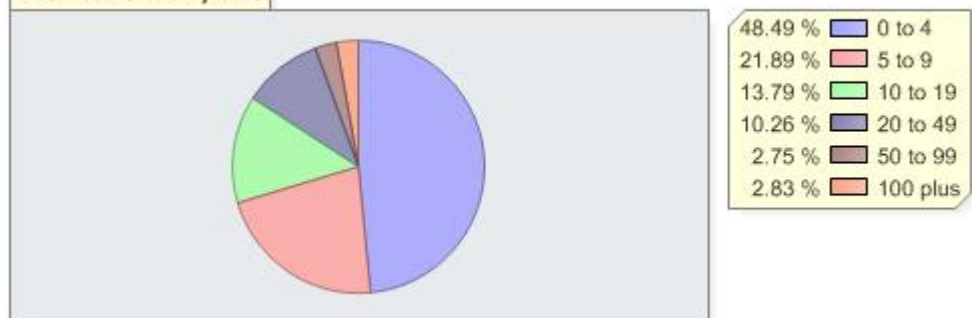


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Firms by Size, 2008:3

	Number of Business Units, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	1,234	48.5%
5 to 9 employees	557	21.9%
10 to 19 employees	351	13.8%
20 to 49 employees	261	10.3%
50 to 99 employees	70	2.8%
100 plus employees	72	2.8%
TOTAL	2,545	100.0%

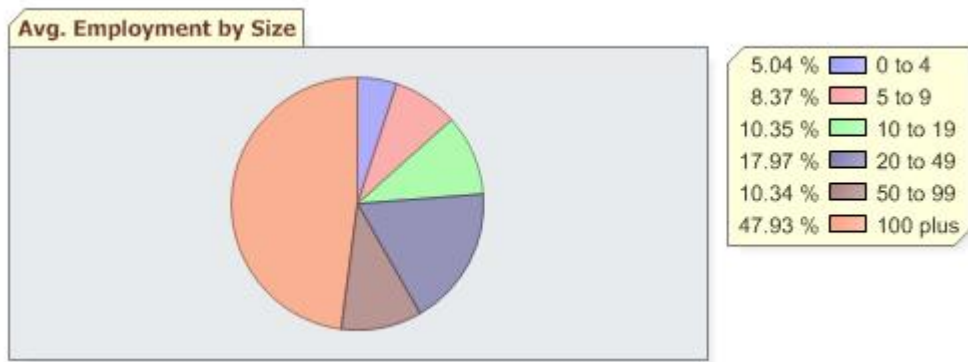
Business Units by Size



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.

Avg. Employment by Business Unit Size, 2008:3

	Avg. Employment, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	2,243	5.0%
5 to 9 employees	3,728	8.4%
10 to 19 employees	4,611	10.4%
20 to 49 employees	8,005	18.0%
50 to 99 employees	4,604	10.3%
100 plus employees	21,350	47.9%
TOTAL	44,541	100.0%



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.